

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 4-17-51 -- 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 4-16-51

WEATHER The week was unseasonably cold, with low temperatures approaching or equaling the record for so late in the season Monday morning. Several days were very windy. Moderate precipitation occurred over the southern portion of the Panhandle and over the extreme eastern portion of the state, but little or none elsewhere.

CROPS Crop returns for the week ending Saturday brought an increase in the number of reports of damage to winter wheat. From one of the highest December 1 condition reports of record, the crop lost seven points by April 1. Further reduction in condition was noted from reports during the first two weeks of April. Many of the weekly reports scattered throughout the state commented on damage to the crop.

The causes of damage reported varied greatly in different parts of the state, from winter drought in the west to excessive moisture in the east, high winds, leaf rust, cut worms, green bug, alternate freezing and thawing, freezing after wheat had lost its winter hardiness, some planting of less winter resistant varieties and too heavy early growth which consumed all of the surface moisture. Reports also indicate damage to wheat in spots, thin stands and slow growth due to a cold, backward, spring season.

Limited field examination the last days of March revealed that the underground portion of the wheat was still alive, although some thinning of stands and some loss of acreage was apparent at that time, which was reflected in the reduced condition from December 1 to March 1. Further field inspection will be made this week.

Reports for the week indicate very little spring small grain sown. Seeding of oats and barley last week was limited largely to the western two-thirds of the state, where about one-third of the seeding is completed in the northern portion and about half in the southern portion. Practically no oats or barley have been seeded to date in northeastern Nebraska. Reports indicate a range from 11% to 20% of the oats seeded to date in east-central and southeastern Nebraska. There are increased reports of further reduction in the acreage of oats because of the lateness of the season. Comments indicate that the reduced acreage of oats and barley may result in increased acreage of corn, legumes, soybeans and other crops.

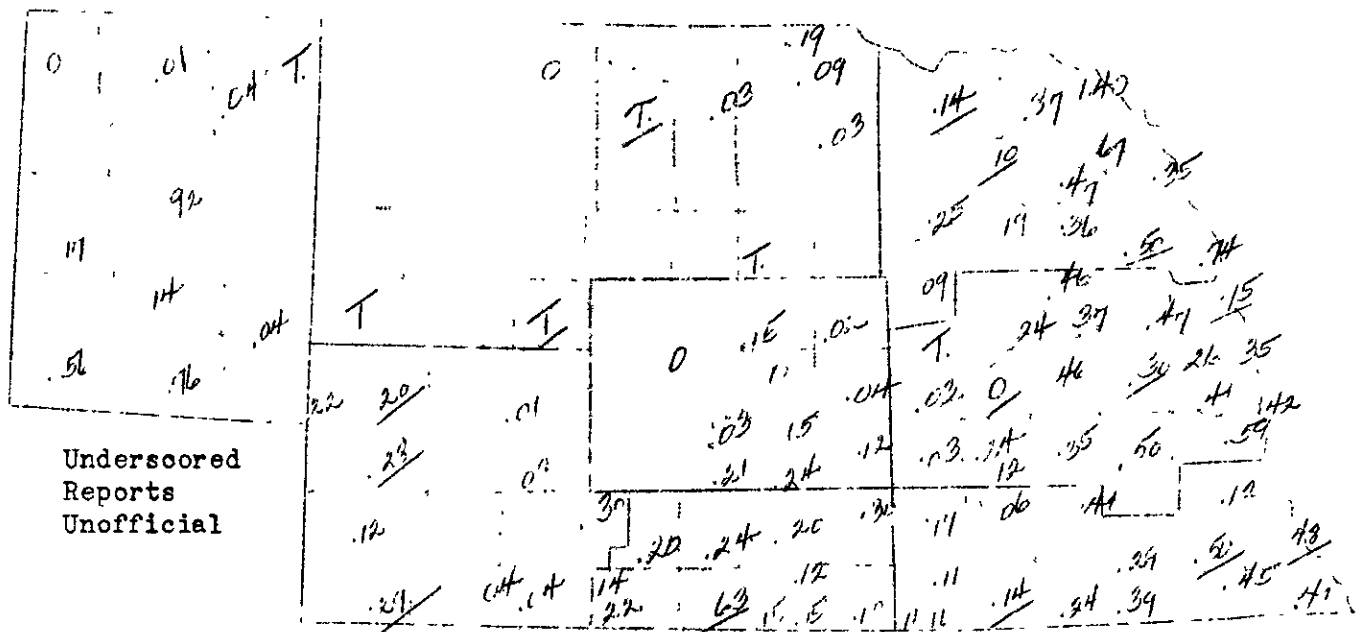
Reports indicate that alfalfa, wild hay and pasture has made very little or no growth due largely to cold weather and limited moisture in the western half of the state. Four counties, Dundy, Hitchcock and parts of Chase and Hayes have received practically no moisture since September.

With the present indications of greater abandonment of winter wheat than expected, together with the likelihood of considerable reduction in the acreage of spring small grain crops, it looks as if there will be some departure from the earlier spring planting intentions. This is likely to result in a larger acreage of sorghum and corn than expected and an increase in some of the minor crops. Some losses of fall seeded alfalfa are reported, as well as some of the older stands and some increase in seeding of alfalfa and grasses are indicated by the reports.

1500

4-17-51

Precipitation Map for Week Ending April 13, 1951



HIGHST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (For 24 hours ending in a.m.)

April

10th 11th 12th 13th 14th 15th 16th
Max Min Max Min Max Min Max Min Max Min Max Min Max Min

NW	Chadron	60	22	41	21	38	11	50	16	77	31	47	17	40	7
	Scottsbluff	58	28	43	22	42	16	51	21	75	31	49	19	38	10
	Sidney	60	27	37	9	36	11	45	20	70	31	49	23	39	11
N-C	Burwell	59	33	--	--	--	--	43	24	--	35	53	25	--	--
	Valentine	60	31	42	24	32	25	44	18	68	35	45	22	34	14
NE	Norfolk	50	37	48	32	39	27	37	31	54	31	54	29	40	25
	Sioux City	47	35	47	34	38	28	36	32	52	29	54	32	38	24
Cen.	Grand Island	55	35	47	31	39	29	44	30	63	38	58	28	45	23
E-C	Lincoln	46	37	50	36	41	28	39	33	59	34	57	31	46	26
	Omaha	44	39	45	36	40	29	37	32	54	32	56	34	40	29
SW	North Platte	62	34	44	23	36	24	47	22	74	37	56	24	44	18

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 16, 1951

Eastern Division		Eastern Div., Cont'd.		Central Division		Western Division	
Albion	0	Hastings	.44	Broken Bow	0	Alliance	.92
Ashland	.07	Lincoln	.08	Burwell	0	Chadron	.01
Auburn	0	Norfolk	.05	Cambridge	.14	Culbertson	.05
Beatrice	.05	Oakdale	.16	Holdrege	0	Imperial	.12
Columbus	0	Omaha	.11	North Loup	0	Kimball	.56
Fairbury	.10	Red Cloud	.10	North Platte	.01	Scottsbluff	.17
Fairmont	.01	St. Paul	0	O'Neill	.27	Sidney	.76
Falls City	.23	Tekamah	.21	Ravenna	.08		
Fremont	.17	Wakefield	.25	Valentine	0		
Grand Island	.08	York	.08				
Hartington	.44						
Average this week		0.11		0.06		0.37	
Total since April 1		0.88		0.58		0.71	
Normal since April 1		1.11		1.01		0.86	